Information

Recorded water levels in this bulletin are derived from a representative network of water level gages on each lake (see cover map). Providers of these data are the U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA, National Ocean Service, and Integrated Science Data Management, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada. The Detroit District, Corps of Engineers and Environment Canada derive historic and projected lake levels under the auspices of the Coordinating Committee on Great Lakes Basic Hydraulic and Hydrologic Data.

This bulletin is produced monthly as a public service. Tables of possible storm-induced rises at key locations on the Great Lakes are available on request. The Corps also publishes the "Great Lakes, Connecting Channels and St. Lawrence River Water Levels and Depths," twice monthly, which provides a forecast of depths in the connecting rivers between the Great Lakes and the International Section of the St. Lawrence River. These publications can be obtained free of charge by writing to the address shown on the front cover, or by calling (313) 226-6441. Notices of change of address should include the name of the publication(s). The Internet address **http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/glhh** contains this information on the Internet.

Great Lakes Basin Hydrology
August 2010

The Great Lakes basin experienced below average precipitation in August. Lake Superior recieved above average precipitation last month, but has received just 77% of its average precipitation in the last 12 months. In addition, Lake Erie saw precipitation in August that was over an inch below its historical August average. Also, the net supply of water to each of the Great Lakes was below average. The tables below list August precipitation and water supply information for all Great Lakes basins.

A comparison of August monthly mean lake levels to long-term average (1918-2009) shows Lakes Superior and Michigan-Huron were both 13 inches below average. Lakes St. Clair and Erie were 4 and 2 inches, respectively, below average in the month of August, while Lake Ontario was an inch above average. Boaters should be aware of hazards to navigation due to current conditions.

PRECIPITATION (INCHES)

BASIN	August				12-Month Comparison			
	2010	Average (1900-2008)	Diff.	% of Average	Last 12 months	Average (1900-2008)	Diff.	% of Average
Superior	3.38	3.16	0.22	107	23.46	30.51	-7.05	77
Michigan-Huron	2.90	3.11	-0.21	93	29.25	32.44	-3.19	90
Erie	2.13	3.22	-1.09	66	34.23	35.40	-1.17	97
Ontario	3.15	3.11	0.04	101	33.24	35.71	-2.47	93
Great Lakes	2.95	3.13	-0.18	94	28.93	32.64	-3.71	89

LAKE	August WATER SUPPLIES[2] (cfs)		August OUTFLOW[3] (cfs)	
	2010	Average (1900-1989)	2010	Average[3] (1900-1999)
Superior	83,000	98,000	55,000	83,000
Michigan-Huron	37,000	55,000	183,000	196,000
Erie	-29,000	-12,000	200,000	207,000
Ontario	4,000	8,000	252,000	256,000

Notes: Values (excluding averages) are based on preliminary computations; cfs denotes cubic feet per second.
[1] Estimated
[2] Negative water supply denotes evaporation from lake exceeded runoff from local basin.
[3] Does not include diversions.
[4] Niagara and St Lawrence rivers average outflows are based on period of record 1900-1989 and 1900-2006, respectively
[5] Lakes Erie and Ontario average water supplies based on 1900-1989